

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 EB-11 COME-00 RSR-01 STR-08 OMB-01 /145 W
----- 110156

R 161315 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2315

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3396

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, IR, CA, MO, KU, SA

SUBJ: CANADIAN CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE IN TEHRAN

REF: TEHRAN 1928

1. CANADIAN CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE HELD IN TEHRAN MAY 9-11. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTTAWA AND CANADIAN AMBASSADORS AT POSTS FROM MOROCCO TO IRAN, EXCEPT FOR FOUR PERSONS (TWO AMBASSADORS AND TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTTAWA) WHO WERE STRANDED IN BEIRUT AND NEVER REACHED TEHRAN.

2. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR GEORGE HAS PROVIDED FOLLOWING BRIEF RUNDOWN ON MEETING. ARAB- ISRAELI PROBLEMS WERE REVIEWED AT LENGTH BUT DISCUSSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE. AMBASSADORS URGED OTTAWA TO BE MORE EVEN- HANDED IN RELATIONS BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS, WHILE OTTAWA REPRESENTATIVES EXPLAINED THAT FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAD TO MAINTAIN RELATIVELY CLOSE TIES WITH ISRAEL. HOWEVER, GEORGE SAID AMBASSADORS FELT THEY HAD MADE SOME DENT ON OTTAWA'S VIEWS AND THIS COULD MEAN THAT IN FUTURE CANADA MIGHT PART COM-
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PANY WITH US IN UN AND ELSEWHERE ON VOTES DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE.

3. AMBASSADORS FOUND OTTAWA REPRESENTATIVES RELATIVELY UN-INFORMED ON STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF GULF. THEY RETURNED TO OTTAWA WITH BETTER AND MORE CURRENT APPRECIATION OF THIS PROBLEM. AMBASSADORS ALSO STRESSED COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADA IN GULF AND NEED FOR MORE ACTIVE CAMPAIGN TO SELL CANADIAN PRODUCTS.

4. AMBASSADORS AND OTTAWA REPRESENTATIVES LEFT TEHRAN WITH BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ROLE WHICH IRAN SOUGHT TO PLAY IN AREA AND OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY SHAH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRY. THERE WAS SOME QUESTIONING ABOUT DIMENSIONS OF SHAH'S MILITARY BUILD-UP AND NEED FOR IT BUT CONFEREES CONCLUDED THAT PERHAPS SHAH KNEW BEST WHAT WAS REQUIRED TO MEET IRAN'S SECURITY NEEDS.

5. CONFEREES AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO OTTAWA THAT CANADIAN REPRESENTATION IN AREA BE EXPANDED. DECISION ALREADY MADE TO OPEN RESIDENT MISSION IN RABAT. IN ADDITION CONFEREES STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT CANADA OPEN POSTS IN JIDDA AND KUWAIT, LARGELY FOR PROMOTION CANADIAN TRADE.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEHRAN03396
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730548/aaaajkpn.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 TEHRAN 1928
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980219
Subject: CANADIAN CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE IN TEHRAN
TAGS: OCON, CA, IR, KU, MO, SA, OCON
To: EUR
JIDDA
KUWAIT
OTTAWA
RABAT
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005